





## INTIMATIONS

## BANK HOLIDAY.

IN accordance with Ordinance No. 5 of 1912 the EXCHANGE BANKS will be CLOSED for the Transaction of PUBLIC BUSINESS on SATURDAY, the 15th instant.

Hongkong, Dec. 12, 1917. 2331

## HONGKONG GOVERNMENT 6% WAR LOAN 1916.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT SCRIP CERTIFICATES may now be exchanged for definitive Bonds. Scrip Certificates should be handed in at the Hongkong Office of the HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION and Bonds of the same denominations will be issued in exchange.

E. D. G. WOLFE,

Colonial Treasurer.

Hongkong, Dec. 10, 1917. 2375

ALFRED HYNDMAN  
43 Wyndham Street.

Was for sale

CARBON PAPER at \$1.00 per dozen sheets  
REBONS at \$1.50 each.

UNDERTAKES to clean and repair typewriters at \$12.00 per machine per annum.  
For particulars apply to the above address.  
Hongkong, Nov. 7, 1917. 2278

In the Matter of THE COMPANIES  
CONSOLIDATION ACT 1908.In the Matter of NATIONAL BANK  
OF CHINA, LIMITED.

(In Liquidation).

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Seventh and Final return of Capital and Dividend at the rate of Forty Cents (Hongkong Currency) per share will be paid on and after SATURDAY, the 22nd day of DECEMBER, 1917, at Noon to registered holders of A and B Shares upon Application to—  
In the case of Shares on the London Register—

Messrs. LOWE,

BINGHAM & MATTHEWS,

Thornes' Chambers,

Ingram Court,

167, Fenchurch Street, London, E.C.

In the case of Shares on the Colonial (Hongkong) Register—

Messrs. LOWE,

BINGHAM & MATTHEWS,

Chartered Bank Building,

3 Queen's Road, Central,

Hongkong.

Share Certificates must be produced for endorsement.  
A. R. LOWE,  
Liquidator.

Hongkong, Nov. 8, 1917. 2373

In the Matter of THE COMPANIES  
CONSOLIDATION ACT, 1908In the Matter of THE NATIONAL  
BANK OF CHINA, LIMITED.

(In Liquidation).

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Final General Meeting of the above-named Company will be held at the office of the Liquidator, Chartered Bank Building, 3 Queen's Road, Central, Victoria, on SATURDAY, 22nd December, 1917, at Noon, precisely, for the purpose of having the account of the Liquidator, showing the manner in which the winding-up has been conducted and the property of the Company disposed of, laid before such meeting, and of hearing any explanations and of passing the following Extraordinary Resolution, viz—  
That the Books, Accounts and Documents of the Company and of the Liquidator thereof be retained by the Liquidator, he undertaking to destroy the same at the expiration of five years from the Dissolution of the Company.

A. R. LOWE,  
Liquidator.

Hongkong, Nov. 8, 1917. 2373

"CHINA MAIL"  
PUBLICATIONS.

OBTAINABLE at the "CHINA MAIL" Office, 5 Wyndham Street, Hongkong.

HISTORY OF UNION CHURCH  
(1891-1906) ... 50HONGKONG'S MUSICAL  
HISTORY ... 50NOTES ON WILD LIFE IN  
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## Bainbridge, M. A.) ... 50

## Part I—Mammals and Birds ... 50

Part II—Reptiles, Amphibians and  
Fishes ... 50THE MISSIONS OF LANGKATERS  
(History of the Eastern  
Churches) ... 1.00CHINESE SCHOOL BOOK  
(San Tin King) translated  
by M. J. Bick ... 50MR. ROBERT HART'S LAND  
TAX MEMORANDUM ... 30

## WASHING BOOK for men ... 20



A Quarter Deck Council—Unanimous decision in favour of

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Possess an individuality and distinction that never fails to charm.

THIS ADVERTISEMENT IS ISSUED BY THE  
BRITISH-AMERICAN TOBACCO CO., LTD.

## GERMANY'S ARMIES

## INCREASE OF 222 BATTALIONS.

Mr. Henry Wood, special correspondent of the United Press with the French Armies, in an article written at the beginning of October, gives the following account of the enemy's situation in regard to man-power:—  
By an intensification of mobilization that has drained Germany dry of every man capable of military service, the German fighting divisions on the French and the Russian Fronts have been practically doubled since the 1st August, 1914. Despite this gigantic effort, France, England and Russia, the three original Allies, have in every way, kept pace with the result that, at the present time, they still have numerical superiority. In addition it has been definitely established that the military value of the Allied armies, as constituted at the present time, is constantly on the increase, while that of the German army is unmistakably on the decline. Since the beginning of the War the new Allies that have joined France, England, and Russia have far exceeded, in the reinforcements of troops which they have added to the Allied cause, those brought to Germany by the allies won over to her side. The definite figures and details of the latter will serve to give an idea, as well, of the proportionate growth of the Allies' fighting forces on the two principal fronts. On the 1st August, 1914, when Germany had mobilized to the extent that she deemed necessary to win the war, and to win it quickly, she threw on to the French and Russian Fronts 120 fighting divisions.

constituted on a basis of four regiments to the division. By first crushing France with the bulk of these, and then throwing them on to the Russian Front by means of her system of strategic railways, she counted on a quick and complete victory. By November of 1914, when the battle of the Yser was being fought, Germany had found it necessary to increase her fighting divisions, on the two fronts, to 137. In September of 1915, towards the close of the Russian campaign, the German divisions on the two fronts had been increased to 170.

By this time Germany began to feel the pressure on her four new divisions, and began the gradual transformation of her division to a basis of three regiments each, instead of four; the extra regiment thus saved went to constitute new divisions. Toward the middle of the attack on Verdun, about June, 1916, all of the German divisions had been reduced to the basis of three regiments only. By this change and by a constant fine-combing of the entire Empire for available men Germany was able to augment her divisions on the Eastern and Western fighting fronts to 178. The autumn and winter of 1916 witnessed Hindenburg's colossal effort at mobilization and creation of new divisions. His plans included the incorporation of the inhabitants of Serbia, Poland, and other conquered districts. As early as December, 1916, these efforts had permitted an increase in the fighting divisions of the two fronts to 208. By July, 1917, at the end of the French and English spring offensive, Hindenburg had attained 224 divisions. On the 1st September, at the time Germany under her counter-offensive on the Russian Front, a maximum of 229 fighting divisions had been thrown on to the French and Russian Fronts with the beginning of hostilities.

She now has on the two fronts 229 divisions. Owing to the fact that these latter are exclusively on a basis of three regiments to the division instead of four, as at the beginning the figures are a trifle deceptive. A more accurate idea is got by reckoning in battalions, as these have numbered approximately 1,000 men each, although it is definitely known that hundreds are now far below this number. On this basis Germany started her campaign on the French and Russian Fronts, with 1,512 battalions. This number has now been increased to 2,334. These fighting units, of course, do not take into account the millions of men employed in the services behind the lines. The thrusting increase, in the way, discouraging to Allied military authorities, because they happen to know that their own fighting divisions are being increased, is not only a triumph, but a very real one.

Austria's mobilization effort since the beginning of the War has been more or less stationary. It is only Germany that has made the big increase. On the other hand, France, England, and Russia have all been able to keep individual pace with Germany. In addition, the new reinforcements brought to Germany by Turkey and Bulgaria are set off to an extreme degree by those brought to the Entente by Italy and Rumania, apart from the help in men yet to come from the United States. As a result the Allies to-day have an ever-increasing numerical superiority, while Germany has already passed the point where she can fill up the losses now occurring in her ranks.

## GERMANY'S MAN-POWER.

The latest estimate of German effectives has been presented by Mr. H. Warner Allen, who says that 4,500,000 trained men were mobilized in 1914; that 2,100,000 men were found permanently unfit; that 200,000 men of military age were abroad, and 500,000 are "indispensable." Thus 2,800,000 men are to be written off the total of 14,000,000 which he accepts as the maximum of German man-power of 11,200,000 men, who were serving in 1914 or have been since called up or combined out. It is now believed that 1,839,055 were killed or missing and 2,922,820 were wounded. What proportion of the wounded may be regarded as permanently unfit is a point on which doctors differ; some would reduce the total 4,791,875 to 4,500,000, others to 4,000,000 non-effectives. But in taking the higher rate of loss we cannot avoid the conclusion that there remain at least 6,700,000 German soldiers to be disposed of by the Entente Powers, and that at the average rate of progress (about 122,000 a month) another five years will "see us through." That is, the conclusion that would be come to upon a purely mathematical basis, yet we know that it is possible to win, and win as we like, in very considerably less time than another five years. The moment a point is reached, when the losing side is compelled to realize that he cannot hope to emerge from the ordeal with a sufficient show of force to demand a hearing at the peace discussion he is bound to capitulate. The arrival of any great defeat in the field, even though it might not place the entire enemy army in such a position as to be faced by the alternatives of surrender or destruction, would, in the concluding stages of such a war as the present one, compel the State to which it belonged to sue for peace on terms to be named by its adversary. The Entente army, we are told, is in the field, and a far larger reserve than the Japanese, yet the moment that the difficulties of prosecuting the campaign to a successful issue were reached by the Government, peace was proposed and accepted on the desperate terms.

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MALTED MILK

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Pure, full-cream milk enriched with all the nutritive elements of selected malted barley and wheat in powder form. Every particle is wholesome, nourishment, it keeps indefinitely, and there is absolutely no waste. The addition of hot or cold water instantly forms a delicious food beverage so highly nutritious and so easily digested that it advantageously replaces heavy meals of the which require more digestive effort, yet at the same time supplies full nutritive value. It is therefore economical in all respects and suits all ages.

READY IN A MOMENT BY STIRRING BRISKLY IN HOT OR COLD WATER ONLY. NO COOKING REQUIRED.

Adapt to substitutes. There is nothing "just as good."

IN THREE SIZES, 1/8, 2/8, and 11/- (IN ENGLAND)

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Codes Used: A1, A.B.C. Fifth Edition. Engineering First and Second Editions. Western Union, and Watkiss.

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| Patent Slip, No. 1, Kowloon                      | 100'                  | 20' 0"           | 10' 0"                         | 10' 0"        | 10' 0"        |
| Patent Slip, No. 2, Kowloon                      | 100'                  | 20' 0"           | 10' 0"                         | 10' 0"        | 10' 0"        |
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MANILA: Messrs Macandray & Co.

SINGAPORE: Messrs Burnes Co. Ltd.

GLASGOW: Messrs A. R. Brown, McFarlane & Co., Ltd.

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WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS,  
TELEPHONE NO. 616.

## To-day's Advertisements

NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

THE Consignees of Cargo from  
Europe per the Company's  
steamship.

"MISHIMA MARU."

are hereby notified that as this steamer  
had an outbreak of fire on board while  
she was off the Canary Islands on 27th  
October, 1917, on her way to the East, it  
has been decided that the damage sus-  
tained and the expenditure incurred  
therefrom shall form a subject for  
General Average contribution. Con-  
signees are therefore requested to sign  
Average Bonds at this office and to all in  
valuation forms which may be supplied  
upon application, as well as to pay to  
the ship's agents a deposit of ONE per  
cent. (1%) of the market value of their  
respective consignments, before taking  
delivery of their goods, on ship's arrival  
here on Thursday, the 13th instant.

NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

Agents.

Hongkong, Dec. 13, 1917.

NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

THE Company's Steamship.

"MISHIMA MARU."

having arrived Consignees of Cargo are  
hereby informed that their Goods are  
being landed and placed at their risk in  
the Hongkong & Whampoa Dock and  
General Company's Godowns at Kowloon,  
where each consignment will be sorted out  
mark by mark and delivery can be  
obtained as soon as the Goods are landed.  
Optional Goods will be carried on unless  
instructions are given to the contrary be-  
fore Noon, To-day.

Goods not cleared by the 20th Decem-  
ber, 1917, will be subject to rent.  
Damaged Packages must be left in the  
Godowns for examination by the Con-  
signee and the Co.'s representatives  
at an appointed hour on TUESDAY and  
FRIDAY. All claims must be pre-  
sented within ten days of the steamer's  
arrival here, after which date they cannot  
be recognised. No claims will be admitted  
after the goods have left the Godown.

NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

Agents.

Hongkong, Dec. 13, 1917.

(Continued on page 8.)

## THE CALENDAR.

### MEMOS. FOR TO-MORROW.

Prince Albert's birthday (1896).

2.30 p.m.—Auction of Household

Furniture, etc. at Messrs. Hughes

and Hough's.

5.17 p.m.—New Moon.

### GENERAL MEMORANDA.

SATURDAY, Dec. 15—

General Holiday.

2.15 p.m.—Cricket on H. K. C. C.

ground: Club v. University.

TUESDAY, Dec. 18—

2.30 p.m.—Auction of Furniture,

Blackwood Ware, Pictures, House-

hold Goods, etc. at Messrs. Hughes

and Hough's.

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 19—

1 p.m.—Army v. Navy Cricket Match

on H.K.C.C. ground.

THURSDAY, Dec. 20—

Prince George's birthday (1909).

10.30 a.m. and 2.30 p.m.—Auction of

Toys, Xmas Trees, Crackers, etc. at

Messrs. Hughes and Hough's.

FRIDAY, Dec. 21—

Hongkong Stock Exchange Settlement

Day.

MONDAY, Dec. 24—

General Holiday.

TUESDAY, Dec. 25—

Christmas Day: General Holiday.

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 26—

Boxing Day: General Holiday.

FRIDAY, Dec. 28—

President Woodrow Wilson's birthday

## The China Mail.

HONGKONG, THURSDAY, Dec. 13, 1917.

### THE LAWLESSNESS IN KWANGTUNG.

There does not seem much prospect  
of an early cessation of the internecine  
strife in China, for there is little  
evidence at present of a disposition  
on either side to surrender or  
even to compromise. We gave in  
our issue last night on the authority  
of the Intelligence Bureau at Canton  
what is represented as the inflexible  
attitude of the South-West provinces.  
"The South West," it tells us, "can-  
not sanction the breach of the Pro-  
visional Constitution in any part,  
however slight, as doing so will  
render the future laws of the country  
unsafe, and subject the Republic to  
perpetual disorder." One would  
expect from the high moral tone of  
these communications from the In-  
telligence Bureau of Canton, that the  
territory which the leaders of the  
South West claim to control would  
be governed in a way which would  
serve as a model for the rest of  
China—that in this territory laws  
would be enforced and executed and  
the lives and property of the popula-  
tion would be safeguarded by good  
government. But the truth is  
that nowhere in China probably is  
there more lawlessness than exists to-  
day in the province of Kwangtung.  
There have been many evidences  
lately close to the frontiers of this  
Colony of the deplorable state of  
disorder into which the country has  
been allowed to lapse under the  
"independent" régime. A few days  
ago a village near Samchun was  
raided by one of the numerous gangs  
of bandits which roam over the  
province. Among the places raided  
was a kerosene store, the stock-in-  
trade being taken to saturate the  
houses in the village before setting  
them on fire. The bandits carried off  
some thirty of the inhabitants, intend-  
ing to hold them for ransom; but  
this number apparently proving  
inconveniently large, they shot eight  
of them by the roadside and sent  
back ten to the village. Our Canton  
correspondent in some recent notes  
on a trip to Weichow from Canton  
drew a deplorable picture of the  
lawless conditions prevailing in that  
part of the province. The control of  
the river traffic he reported to be  
largely in the hands of armed  
bandits, who rob and pillage where  
safe transport has not been secured  
by payment of substantial sums to  
the robber guilds; "the Government  
being too weak and helpless to  
suppress the robbers." Of the  
conditions at Weichow we are told  
that the people in the country were  
afraid to come into the city and  
the people in the city were afraid  
to go into the country. This state  
of affairs is not confined to a small  
area, but extends apparently through-  
out the province. Travel is unsafe and  
trade must be suffering greatly. Laws  
like the opium and gambling laws  
are openly defied and indeed  
deliberately broken by the "in-  
dependent" rulers of the province.  
It is from such a centre that the

defenders of the Revolution" are  
fulminating about the sanctity of  
laws and the perpetual disorder which  
will arise from their infraction. If  
Kwangtung and the other provinces  
of the South West could show under  
their "independent" régime a record  
of good government and sound  
administration—the Revolutionary  
organisation which is assumed to  
control them would deserve and  
command respectful attention for  
their manifestoes, but the fact patent  
to all men in China is that where-  
ver the Revolutionary party are in  
control there will be found chaos and  
disorder and consequent insecurity  
of life and property, revealing their  
incapacity to govern.

### NEWS OF THE DAY.

#### LOCAL AND GENERAL.

Telegraphic communication be-  
tween Shanghai and Peking has been  
restored.

Saturday, the 15th December,  
being a General Holiday, the Post  
Office will be open from 8 to 9 a.m.  
There will be one delivery of ordinary  
correspondence and one collection of  
letters from the pillar boxes. The  
Money Order Office will be entirely  
closed.

We are informed that, as a  
Thanksgiving for the surrender of  
Jerusalem, a solemn Te Deum will  
be sung at the Catholic Cathedral  
this evening (Thursday, the 13th),  
at 5.30 p.m., followed by the Benedic-  
tine of the Blessed Sacrament.  
Bishop Pozzoni will officiate, and all  
Catholics are invited to attend.

An Indian is going about among  
business firms saying that he is  
authorised to collect money for  
sports to be given in aid of wounded  
soldiers at the Front, on Boxing Day,  
by Queen's College on their ground  
at Causeway Bay. We are advised  
that the youth is an imposter, and  
should be handed over to the Police  
if caught.

The statutory and the first ordinary  
general meeting of the Far Eastern  
Insurance Co., Ltd., were held at No. 1  
The Bund, Shanghai last week. There  
were present: Messrs. Edward I. Ezra  
(Chairman), H. E. Arnold, E. T. Byrne  
and V. Meyer, Directors; Mr. W. S.  
Jackson, General Manager; Mr. H. H.  
Read, Secretary; and shareholders  
representing a total of 15,489 shares.  
The company commenced business on  
November 1st.

Mrs. Macconachie, wife of the pastor  
of Union Church, gave an interesting  
lecture on Tennyson last night in the  
Church Hall, Kennedy Road, illustrating  
her remarks by quotations from the  
poet. Miss McCubbin sang Tennyson's  
"Tears, idle tears"; Mrs. David Wood,  
"Crossing the Bar." A quartette,  
"Sweet and Low," was sung by Miss  
McCubbin, Mrs. Wood, Mr. Allen and  
Mr. Macconachie, and Mr. C. Hickling  
read Tennyson's "The Revenge."

It is now declared that there is  
now no doubt that the wireless tele-  
graphy contract made by the Chinese  
Minister of the Navy with the Danish  
firm of Larsen & Co., involves a large  
extension in China of the German  
Telefunken system which has been  
already established at Kalgan, Peking,  
Chefoo, Hankow, Shanghai and Foochow.  
It is asserted that Mr. Larsen, under the  
guise of the Danish firm of Larsen &  
Company, is really acting as the agent  
of Siemens, Schunkert, who are to supply  
the money and materials. Sir John  
Jordan, the British Minister, has  
demanded from the Chinese Government  
that the contract should be cancelled.

#### UNNECESSARY WORKS.

Why waste words and advertising  
space in describing the many  
points of merit in Chamberlain's Cough  
Remedy? The fact is that this well-  
established, when we state that it cures  
colds and coughs from any cause, and  
that it contains absolutely no narcotics  
or harmful substances. It is sold by all  
Chemists and Dispensaries.

### CHINESE AFFAIRS.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)

#### CHINA AND THE GREAT WAR.

PERING, Dec. 12.

Replying to inquiries made by the  
French Minister, Lung Chen Chang,  
Minister of Foreign Affairs, stated  
that no change of China's foreign  
policy was involved in the change  
of Cabinet. The despatch of troops  
by China to the European front had  
necessarily been delayed, but would  
be carried out later.

#### THE PROPOSED ARMISTICE IN CHINA.

PERING, Dec. 12.

The Mandate ordering an armistice  
has been held back for reasons which  
have not been disclosed. The re-  
ported foreign intervention is con-  
tradicted.

#### SEEKING A SETTLEMENT.

PERING, Dec. 12.

Special messengers have been sent  
by both the President and the  
Premier to Li Yuan Hung, the Ex-  
President, who is residing at Tien-  
tsin, appealing to him to undertake  
to mediate between the North and  
South, but he declines, saying that  
he does not desire to re-enter politics.  
Luk Wing Ting has telegraphed  
to the President direct that the dis-  
solution of the National Council and  
the early reassembly of Parliament  
are essential conditions of peace.  
He makes no other demands but  
recommends Mok Wing Sun as  
acting Tschun of Canton.

"The President has telegraphed to  
Li Shun instructing him to proceed  
with the peace negotiations. He at  
the same time telegraphed to two  
Northern Tschuns ordering them to  
prepare for fighting."

General Wong Jim Yuen has tele-  
graphed to Peking that negotiations  
for peace in Hunan have been  
arranged.

#### FIGHTING AT SWATOW.

News received by mail from  
Swatow to-day states that the  
Cantonese troops made a surprise  
attack on Swatow at 2 a.m. on the  
10th inst.

Northern troops hold the railway  
station but the line to Chowchow  
has been cut, and so also is the  
water supply to Swatow.

The fighting was around the rail-  
way station, and the attack on  
Monday which was made by a force  
estimated at about 400 Cantonese  
was stated to be repulsed, about  
thirty of the attacking force being  
killed.

The banks of the city are closed  
and business is practically at a stand-  
still. Plenty of bullets are flying  
about.

There are three so-called Northern  
warships in the harbour but they had  
not participated in the fighting up to  
the time the mail left.

In this connection we may repro-  
duce the first paragraph of the com-  
munication we received yesterday  
from the Intelligence Bureau at  
Canton, viz: "An expeditionary  
force to Fukien to oust the Northern-  
ers there left Canton recently, march-  
ing overland. To-day another force,  
escorted by a portion of the Chinese  
Navy, is sailing for a place still un-  
disclosed." Can this be Swatow?

#### CANADA AND CHINESE IMMIGRATION.

Word has just been received from the  
Deputy Minister of the Interior that on  
July 25, 1917, the Senate and House  
of Commons of Canada passed the amend-  
ment to the Chinese Emigration Act  
admitting the following two classes from  
vict, clergymen and students going to  
Canada for the purpose of securing a  
higher education. Formerly students  
were required to deposit \$1,000, and  
although this could be refunded later, it  
was practically prohibitive. Very few  
students went to Canada, and the greater  
majority went to the United States.  
The repeal of the obnoxious legislation is  
the result of a long-continued agitation  
in the United States, because it was  
seen that the last barrier was re-  
moved. It will take some time before  
students throughout the 18  
provinces hear of the new opening in  
Canada, but as soon as they do, there  
will be at least some who desire a British  
education and will go to Canada to  
obtain it.—N. C. Daily News.

#### THE BEST COUGH MEDICINE.

CHAMBERLAIN'S Cough Remedy is  
the best cough medicine in the world.  
It is sold by all Chemists and Dispensaries.

### FATAL ACCIDENT IN THE TYPHOON REFUGEE.

A coroner's enquiry was held this after-  
noon into the circumstances touching  
the death of a Chinese boatwoman who  
was drowned during a collision between  
the launch Shun Tai and the deceased's  
boat at the Yaumati Typhoon Refuge  
on the 21st November last. The  
deceased was one of three persons  
drowned as a result of the accident.

Mr. Wood acted as Coroner.

Mr. Bearia appeared to watch the  
case on behalf of the coroner and the  
owner of the launch.

The husband of the deceased gave  
evidence. He stated that the last time  
he saw his wife was on his mother's  
boat on the 20th November. He learnt  
of her death the next day from the  
Police who called on him to identify  
her body.

The coxswain of the launch Shun Tai  
was the next witness called. He deposed  
that at about half-past seven in the  
evening of November 21st the launch  
Shun Tai left Hongkong for Yaumati.  
It was then very dark and cloudy. He  
was steering the launch, which had on  
board between forty and fifty passengers.

Before he entered the Yaumati shelter  
he sounded a blast of the whistle and  
then the launch moved into the shelter  
at about quarter speed. It was then  
that he saw an object about 100 feet  
away from the launch. He steered the  
launch to port to avoid the object. He  
did not know whether the object was  
moving or stationary, but the object  
showed no lights. It was only when the  
launch was 20 to 30 feet away that he  
discovered the object to be a boat, but  
at this time collision was unavoidable.

He did not notice any person on board  
but heard cries of "save life" when the  
collision took place. The launch was  
immediately stopped and a search was  
made for the people. He ordered the  
seamen to throw overboard lifeboats  
and to render any assistance that might  
be required. One of the sailors jumped  
into the water, but his search was fruit-  
less. After remaining at the spot for  
about twenty minutes the launch con-  
tinued on her way to the pier. When  
the launch was safely berthed witness  
went to the Police station and reported  
the accident to the Police.

After further evidence was taken the  
Coroner said no blame could be attached  
to the crew of the launch and that the  
collision was purely the result of an  
accident. The enquiry was then closed.

### SPORTING.

#### CRICKET.

#### HONGKONG C.C. v. UNIVERSITY.

The following will represent the Club  
in the above friendly game on the Club  
ground on Saturday, 15th inst. com-  
mencing at 12 noon—G. E. Aubrey,  
Capt. Dewar R. N., F. W. S. Evans,  
Capt. E. H. Gray, H. E. Hollands, P.  
Jackson, M. M. Mass, Major Mayhew,  
Lieut. McConnell, Lieut. H. E. Murray,  
and F. Syme Thomson.

The following will represent the Uni-  
versity—A. R. Rumjahn (Capt.); G. E.  
Marley, E. A. Posenby Fane, K. Bray-  
shaw, P. M. Jack, P. A. Redmond, W.  
Gittins, J. D. Wright, D. K. Samy, G.  
Hall, and Cheah Toon Lock.

#### FOOTBALL.

A match between the H.K. Defence  
Corps and a team from the Middlesex  
Regiment will be played on Saturday,  
commencing at 4 p.m.

The H.K.D.C. team is—Goldenberg;  
Cave and McCobbin; Chassell, Stewart  
and Rodgers; Wood, Gerrard, Irving,  
Macfarlane and Ralston.

#### LEAGUE CRICKET.

#### K.C.C. v. C.R.C.

This league match will be played on  
Saturday at Causeway Bay at 2 p.m.  
K.C.C. Team—J. P. Robinson, P. H.  
Cobb, R. Perston, A. A. Claxton, P.  
Wheeler, L. E. S. Hodge, L. J. Black-  
burn, F. E. Joseland, A. de Sousa, R.  
E. Lindell, and J. Stalker.

All the English history that I know  
was learned from the cinema—Sir R.  
Baden-Powell.  
There is no pessimism about me.—The  
Bishop of Birmingham.  
Public education to be good must be  
education of the whole man and not  
entirely the raising of a bookworm.—  
Mr. H. A. L. Fisher.

#### A GERM DESTROYER.

THERE is no danger whatever from  
lock jaw or blood poisoning resulting  
from a wound when Chamberlain's Pain  
Remedy is promptly applied. It is an  
antiseptic and destroys the germs which  
cause these diseases. It also causes  
wounds to heal without maturation and  
in one-third the time required by the  
usual treatment. For sale by all Chemists  
and Dispensaries.

### THE MAGISTRACY.

#### ALLEGED FRAUDULENT OPIUM LABELS.

The case was resumed this morning  
in which a licensed opium dealer of Tai  
O, New Territory, was charged with the  
illegal possession of 12 labels resembling  
those used by the Superintendent of the  
Imports and Exports Office in connection  
with government opium.

Defendant pleaded not guilty.

Mr. M. K. Lo appeared for the  
defence.

Evidence was given by Mr. L. L.  
Xavier, manager of the Hongkong  
Printing Press, who deposed that his  
firm prints opium labels for the  
Superintendent of Imports and Exports.  
The labels found in the defendant's  
possession were shown him and he  
found some of them were imitations.  
He detected the imitation by the differ-  
ence in the drawing of the label, which  
in his opinion had not been made by the  
same process.

The case was again adjourned, bail  
being fixed at \$2500.

#### THEFT OF WIRE NAILS.

A Chinese was charged before Mr.  
Wood this morning with the unlaw-  
ful possession of a quantity of wire nails,  
reasonably suspected to have been  
stolen.

Defendant pleaded not guilty. He  
stated that he picked the nails from a  
heap of sweepings on board a steamer.

His Worship did not believe the  
man's story and sentenced him to  
fourteen days' hard labour.

#### NOBODY'S PROPERTY!

A Chinese was charged before Mr.  
Dyer Ball this morning with the  
unlawful possession of a quantity of  
iron fencing.

Inspector Browne stated that the  
fencing had been taken from a house in  
Queen's Road Central. The owner, he  
had been told, had left for Canton, but  
it was his opinion that the owner did  
not wish to prosecute.

Defendant stated that he picked the  
fencing from a house which had been  
burnt out recently. As it did not  
appear to be owned by anybody he  
thought he could appropriate it for his  
own use.

After further evidence His Worship  
remanded the case until to-morrow.

#### THEFT OF A CAT.

A dirty and unkempt Chinese was  
charged before Mr. Dyer Ball this  
morning with the theft of a cat.

Defendant pleaded not guilty. He  
stated that he set traps for wild cats  
and not for domestic ones. It was not  
his fault that the cat was ensnared. He  
alleged that the owner of the animal  
struck him.

Inspector O'Sullivan stated that the  
cat had one of its legs badly injured by  
the trap. The trap was a big and ugly  
affair and large enough to hold a man.

Mr. Dyer Ball in sentencing the  
defendant to three months' hard labour  
and four hours' stocks, remarked that  
the prisoner thoroughly deserved the  
injuries inflicted on the poor animal.  
He regretted he had no power to  
sentence him to a severe flogging.

#### RELEASED.

The elderly Chinese who was charged  
with sending a threatening letter to Mr.  
H. P. Wynlow, Manager of the Kow-  
loon section of the Canton-Kowloon  
Railway, demanding the sum of \$5,000,  
was released this morning, the Police  
being unable to proceed with the case.

#### HONGKONG POLICE RESERVE.

#### MUNICIPAL COURSE, PART I.

Staff Inspectors Witt and Taylor,  
Messrs. 704, Weaver, 672, Henderson, 707,  
Yvanovich, 648 Silas, and all members  
of No. 2 Platoon who have not yet fired,  
will attend the range on Sunday next,  
the 16th inst. Leave Blake Pier 9 a.m.  
Chief Inspector Sirdar Khan, Inspectors  
Alves, Silva Netto, C. M. S. Alves,  
Ribeiro and Botelho will attend as regis-  
ter-keepers.

PARADES / CENTRAL, 5.30 P.M.  
Monday, 17th December—Nos. 3 and  
4 Platoons (No. 2 Company).  
Tuesday, 18th December—Nos. 5 and  
6 Platoons (No. 3 Company).  
Wednesday, 19th December—No. 2  
Platoon.  
Thursday, 20th December—No. 3 Com-  
pany and Ambulance Platoon, (under  
own Chief Inspector).

Friday, 21st December—No. 1 Platoon.  
Rifles of Nos. 1 and 2 Platoons will be  
inspected by the Munitions Officer im-  
mediately after the fall in, and before  
roll-call.

As from this date, Warning Officers  
will send all duty lists to this office, and  
not to the various Police Stations direct.  
Stations will be advised from the office  
only. This does not apply to H. B. C.  
Police. F. C. Jones, D.S.P. (R).

### HONGKONG & WHAMPOA DOCK COMPANY.

#### ANOTHER STEAMER LAUNCHED.

At Kowloon Docks yesterday after-  
noon there was launched a new vessel  
for the Siam Steam Navigation Co.,  
Ltd., Bangkok. As the vessel moved  
off Mrs. R. M. Dyer gracefully per-  
formed the christening ceremony naming  
the vessel *Sudhadit*.

The dimensions and particulars of the  
vessel are as follows:—

#### DESCRIPTION OF VESSEL.

The "*Sudhadit*" is a steel single  
screw steamer of the Awaing Deck type  
with raised fore deck, boat deck amid-  
ships and aft. The principal dimensions  
are:—

Length overall.....334 ft. 6 ins.  
Length B.P.....233 ft. 0 ins.  
Breadth Moulded.....35 ft. 6 ins.  
Depth Moulded to Awning  
Deck.....20 ft. 0 ins.  
Depth Moulded to Main  
Deck.....13 ft. 0 ins.



## TELEGRAMS.

(Continued from Page 1.)

## THE WESTERN FRONT.

## THE CAMBRAI FRONT.

LONDON, Dec. 12. Reuter's Correspondent at Headquarters, telegraphing to-day, says the comparative lull continues on the Cambrai front. Favourable by day, cold weather both sides are busy digging and wiring and generally improving their respective positions. A sound of heavy shelling comes from the vicinity of Bullecourt and Lagnicourt, the significance of which it is at present impossible to say.

LONDON, Dec. 12.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—  
We successfully raided last night in the neighbourhood of Pontreue, north-west of St. Quentin.

We repulsed a local attack northward of La Vacquerie.

## THE REVERSAL OF FORTUNE AT CAMBRAI.

## SEARCHING INQUIRY DEMANDED.

LONDON, Dec. 12.

The Times urges a prompt and searching inquiry into the reversal of fortune at Cambrai. It says Sir Douglas Haig possesses the undiminished confidence of the army and nation, but his position largely depends upon the choice of his subordinates. His weakness, if it be weakness, is in the invariable devotion of those serving him longest, some perhaps too long.

## BRUGES DOCKS AGAIN BOMBED.

LONDON, Dec. 12.

The Admiralty announces that Naval aircraft on Monday night dropped many tons of bombs on Costacker aerodrome and Bruges docks. The results at the former place were difficult to observe, but a fire was started at the Bruges docks.

All our machines returned.

## AEROPLANE LOSSES.

LONDON, Dec. 12.

A German official announcement, received by wireless, states: The enemy lost in November 22 balloons and 205 aeroplanes, 85 of which fell behind our lines. We lost 60 aeroplanes and two balloons.

## RAW MATERIAL AFTER THE WAR.

## A WARNING TO THE ENEMY.

LONDON, Dec. 12.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Bonar Law offered a warning to our enemies that the longer the war lasted the less raw material there would be to go round, and as the Allies would help themselves first, the less there would be for Germany.

## COMMENTS ON MR. ASQUITH'S SPEECH.

LONDON, Dec. 12.

The interest with which Mr. Asquith's speech was awaited is reflected in the comments of the newspapers which are relieved to find that he did not support Lord Lansdowne, though some take exception to his explanation of the latter's letter.

The Times, which accuses Lord Lansdowne of deliberately stabbing the Government in the back, says it is exceedingly glad that Mr. Asquith is firm against all temptation to support it.

The Daily Chronicle says: Nobody who appreciated the straightness and consistency of Mr. Asquith's statesmanship could have expected a recantation of the principles he defined when he held office.

The Daily News says: Mr. Asquith has given the most precise considered declaration of war aims yet made by any European statesman.

The Daily Telegraph says: The speech shows that the resolution of the British people is utterly unmoved by the recent German military successes.

## PORTUGAL'S PRESIDENT ARRESTED.

LISBON, Dec. 12.

The President of the Republic has been arrested owing to his refusal to resign.

## BRITISH ENTRY INTO JERUSALEM.

## GENERAL ALLENBY'S REPORT.

LONDON, Dec. 12.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Lloyd George read a telegram from General Allenby announcing that he entered Jerusalem on foot on the 11th instant. Guards were placed round the Holy Places but the Mosque of Omar was placed under Mahommedan control.

## GERMAN HYPOCRISY.

## WHY JERUSALEM FEELS.

AMSTERDAM, Dec. 12.

A German semi-official statement admits that the "evacuation" of Jerusalem was involuntary, but declares that the reason why the City fell was the Turkish-German desire to prevent "ground sacred to all God-fearing peoples becoming the scene of bloody fighting." It adds that the town is militarily worthless.

[It is not hypocrisy it suggests that the Germans co-operating with the Turks have more respect for the sanctity of holy places than have the Germans in the French and Belgian theatres of war.]

## MEAT RESTRICTION AT HOME.

## TO COVER THE FESTIVE SEASON.

LONDON, Dec. 12.

It is officially announced that Lord Rhonda, the Food Controller, has restricted the retail sale of meat for the four weeks ending January 13th to the extent of the sales for the four weeks prior to October 27th.

## THE HALIFAX CALAMITY.

## A GIFT OF £1,000,000.

LONDON, Dec. 12.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Bonar Law announced that the Government had sent a message of sympathy to Halifax and had also raised a gift of £1,000,000 to the relief fund.

## GREECE'S 300,000 MEN.

## POWERFUL AID IN THE BALKANS IN THE SPRING.

By his courage, eloquence, and the proofs he had brought of King Constantine's guilt, Mr. Venizelos had greatly improved his position, said Professor Ronald M. Burrows, lecturing at King's College on "Greece as an Ally." The Greek Minister presided and the Serbian Minister was on the platform.

Professor Burrows declared that matters were improving in Greece. The nation had joined the Allies without bargaining, desiring to fulfil their obligations to others. In the letter received recently it was stated that eight out of every ten possibilities had been recruited, making up a force of from 100,000 to 150,000 men. It was hoped by the spring that Greece would have an army of 300,000 men, which would form a useful contribution, especially when it was remembered they could stand the Balkan climate, and knew the Bulgarians.

Mr. Venizelos had come into a position of many difficulties, both with regard to action and foodstuffs. Greece was not too well off, and it was important, if only as a matter of policy, for this country to see to it that the alliance with her meant abundance and not scarcity.

Greece had already produced 60,000 men to fight for us, and had given the greatest and straightest statesman in Europe to the Allies' cause.

The story of a Berlin Medical Board which had to be strictly historical, but the margin of error must not be exaggerated.

A recruit enters. President of the Board (to the recruit): "What the devil's the matter with you? Asthma? Cannot breathe? Rubbish! Our Hindenburg is asthmatic. Passed fit! March!"

A second recruit enters. President to second recruit: "Why do you keep your left arm like that? Lift it up, you swine! It's withered. You can't lift it. And so you think you're useless for the army. Bosh! Absolute bosh! Our Kaiser has a withered arm. Passed fit. March!"

A third recruit enters. President to third recruit: "What's this, sergeant? What's he jabbering for? Insane! Useless for the army! Ridiculous! God in heaven! Isn't our Crown Prince? Passed fit! March! The Board will adjourn for lunch."

## THE CHILDREN'S COLDS.

WATCH the children's colds and cure them before they weaken the vitality. Use Chamberlain's Cough Remedy freely. It is perfectly safe. It has been tested by chemists and pronounced free from injurious substances and costs but a trifle. For sale by all Chemists and Druggists.

## EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

## MR. ASQUITH ON OUR WAR AIMS.

LONDON, Dec. 12.

Mr. Asquith, speaking at Birmingham, said: History would ask: Was it worth Great Britain's while to enter the war? He answered undoubtedly and unhesitatingly: "Yes, only provided the war ended in a peace securing the attainment in itself of the safeguards of its own permanence." Such a peace had become the world's supreme need and there was no greater enemy of humanity than anyone who, by word or act, made it more difficult to achieve. After affirming that he had nothing to take away from his recent speeches at Leeds and Liverpool regarding Britain's war aims, and that President Wilson in his recent address to Congress had arrived by the same route at practically the same conclusion, Mr. Asquith referred to Lord Lansdowne's letter. He paid a tribute to Lord Lansdowne's patriotism, and declared that he had no more knowledge than any member of the Government of the letter until it was published and he had no responsibility whatever for its terms. He expressed the opinion that much of the criticism of the letter arose from reading into it meanings and intentions which he did not understand it to convey.

He thought that Lord Lansdowne's main argument was that the Allies, while carrying on the war vigorously, should endeavour to make it increasingly clear that our war aims were rational and unselfish; that these were the aims for which we entered the war, and that by attaining them we were convinced that we might look for a durable peace safeguarded by the conjoint authority of an International League.

In the words of President Wilson, the aim was to bring into effective existence that partnership, not merely of Governments, but of peoples, which must henceforth guarantee the world's peace. Even now there was abundant evidence that the enemy peoples were kept in the dark regarding our real purposes, both for war and peace. He would continue to do what he could to raise the veil and let it, if possible, come rays of light.—(Cheers.)

Mr. Asquith recalled his declaration at the Guildhall in November, 1914, that we would not sheathe the sword until the military domination of Prussia was wholly and finally destroyed.—(Loud cheers.) He emphasised our agreement with President Wilson's declaration that nobody threatened the existence, independence and peaceful enterprise of Germany. None of the Allies sought to prescribe the internal constitution and arrangements of the future of Germany.

What we were concerned with was the system which enthroned force as the sovereign authority, which held itself free in pursuit of its supposed interests to classify, decide or supersede, according to the exigencies of the hour, the most solemn pacts. This system must end. Germany must learn, as I believe she is learning, that as a matter of business, apart from sentiment and ethics, the system does not pay.—(Loud cheers.)

We do not have and do not desire to have any quarrel, internecine and perpetual, with the German nation. We acknowledge the contribution they have made, and we believe will continue to make, to the common stock of knowledge, research, invention and material and intellectual resources.

But if there is to be a real enduring pact it must be something more than paper documents. Another misconception is that the Allies, especially Britain, are aiming at destruction for their own political and economic objects of what is vaguely called "the freedom of the seas." In peace time the seas are open to the marine of all nations. What stipulation would Britain propose in the peace terms to curtail or fetter that immemorial right? That formula can only be used to indicate a new limitation in war time upon the belligerent rights of a Power which happens to command the sea.

No corresponding limitation is suggested for a land war. Where existing conventions of the most solemn character have been systematically violated by the enemy, it is worth considering whether something ought not to be done to secure freedom of the seas from the prosecution of its lawless and infamous submarine campaign with its ruthless sacrifice of innocent life. No peace will be won the name which permits a veiled war to be carried on by other methods. He endorsed the words of President Wilson "to base peace on generosity and justice."

## ANOTHER FRENCH SENSATION.

## PROSECUTION OF M. CAILLAUX UNDER CONSIDERATION.

PARIS, Dec. 12.

The Government has informed the Chamber that the Military Governor of Paris has requested the immediate withdrawal of M. Caillaux's parliamentary immunity.

At the instance of the Military Governor of Paris the Chamber is considering the prosecution of ex-Premier Caillaux, who is accused of treason, dealings with the enemy and pacifist propaganda. A committee will be appointed to decide whether he shall be tried by court martial or the Senate.

The Chamber is also considering the prosecution of Deputy Loustolot, who is accused of dealings with the enemy. It is alleged he met the ex-Khedive of Egypt in a neutral country.

## THE SILVER MARKET.

LONDON, Dec. 12.

Silver is quoted at 27½ per ounce. The market is quiet.

## THE WESTERN FRONT.

## AIR-RAID ON GERMANY.

LONDON, Dec. 12.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig, reporting an aviation, says:—  
The enemy's machines were particularly active on Monday evening of Cambrai, repeatedly attacking our artillery and machine gun positions. Our machines dropped many bombs and fired many machine gun rounds at villages, haystacks and trenches. Three of ours are missing.

Our machines in fine weather this morning started for the purpose of bombing certain factories in Germany, but found that their objectives were obscured by clouds. Seeing a clear gap north-east they proceeded thither and further recognised a large railway junction north-eastward of Pirmasels and bombed it. All returned.

## SUCCESSFUL RAID BY SHERWOOD FORESTERS.

LATER.

The Sherwood Foresters made a successful raid in the afternoon westward of Hulluch, taking a number of prisoners. A hostile raiding party was repulsed, early in the morning southward of Armentieres.

## THE FRENCH FRONT.

LONDON, Dec. 12.

A French communiqué says:—There is moderate reciprocal artillery activity on the greater part of the Front.

## THE RUSSIAN SITUATION.

## COLLISION BETWEEN OPPOSING FORCES.

LONDON, Dec. 12.

Reuter's Correspondent at Petrograd, telegraphing last night, says the Military Revolutionary Committee has invited the people to demonstrate tomorrow with inflammatory watchwords.

The outlook is most ominous. The Maximist organ Pravda announces that the first collision between the Maximists and 4000 of General Korniloff's followers has taken place with machine guns near Bielskograd. No result is given.

It is stated that Black Sea naval detachments accompanied delegations sent to General Kaledin, who arrested one of the delegations. General Kaledin has issued a stern warning against the Black Sea naval men interfering with the autonomy of Cossack territories.

## THE CAPTURE OF JERUSALEM.

LONDON, Dec. 12.

Today's celebrations of the capture of Jerusalem included a Te Deum at St. Paul's Cathedral, which has never been so crowded at an unofficial service since the war began.

A special service was held at Liverpool in the Central Synagogue and there was ringing of bells at the Roman Catholic Church at Llanston.

## A GERMAN VIEW.

A message from Amsterdam states that the "Kölnische Volkszeitung" admits that the capture of Jerusalem is a great moral British victory.

## PANAMA CANAL ZONE.

## CLEARED OF THE ENEMY.

NEW YORK, Dec. 12.

The Republic of Panama has declared war upon Austria-Hungary and the Austrians have been interned. The Canal zone is now cleared of Austrians and Germans.

## THE FLOODS OF NORTH CHINA.

[From "The Far Eastern Review"]

Vast areas in Chihli Province and in other provinces have been inundated this summer by the failure of rivers to carry their annual burden of rain water to the sea, and the failure can be attributed to the lack of systematic attention to conservancy work by Chinese officials in the past. Ruthless destruction of the haphazard erection by villages of dykes and levees, and the lack of scientific direction, the callous indifference of the governments of the past to the teachings of early flood lessons are solely responsible for the great toll in lives, in property, and in money, which the waters have now taken from the millions of people who are allowed to live in the low-lying areas of the Yangtze and the Yellow River.

No recent government can escape responsibility for the disaster by pleading lack of knowledge of conditions. Too pathetic warnings have been made many times in the past decade by responsible foreign engineers, by foreign residents in, or travellers through, the affected areas, and by writers of every nationality whose eyes have seen, whose intelligence have been awakened, and whose hearts have been moved by close and painful proximity to the sufferings of the people whose homes and crops over vast areas have been buried feet deep in silt and sand in a night, as it were, and hundreds of thousands of whom have been drowned or starved to death by resultant famine in the devastated regions.

Before the railway system reached the stage at which it now stands, great disasters were little known to the outside world, and the area of suffering could be restricted only with difficulty. Losses of millions of lives went to be accepted as the inexorable law of nature operating to regulate population in the land of plural wives and prolific child-birth, and when the outside world did not know the almost annual toll of lives the outside world could not care. But as soon as conditions arose smothering the poverty of periodic flood and famine plagues it is realised by the European President in his policy of international cooperation, and this has been crystallised in all events consistently urged the Government to take some steps which a view to proportion to the extent of the disasters

and the interest of the officials. With each recent great disaster there have been millions of dollars spent on relief work, mostly contributed by foreigners, great plans for preventive work have been made, but with the diminution of the disaster effected by the distribution of relief came a collateral diminution of the desire for the undertaking of permanent preventive works. Plans have been allowed to become dust-covered in the limbo of forgotten things, and officials have lapsed into peaceful indifference of public questions until suddenly accused by some new assertion of preposterous nature's right to punish the procrastinating human.

So the Chihli floods have come again. But this time with a difference. Where they have merely affected the native before, they have this time very boldly and badly hit the foreigners, and because of this it is certain that the Government will be forced to take action where hitherto it has been able to ignore the claims of the common people. Because the flood waters have menaced Tientsin the great population in the valleys of the untrammelled rivers will have a chance at last of permanent protection, for the time has come when the Government must be compelled by foreign influence if not by realization of the claims of the tax-paying people who have been ruined to undertake a protective scheme of conservancy, which will embrace all of the northern rivers at least.

The disaster, which has involved Tientsin, is due solely to the deforestation of the regions forming the watershed of the four or five rivers concentrating near Tientsin to use the channel of the Hai-Ho river to the sea, and the unscientific dyking of the country through which they flow. The main waterways concerned are the Peiho, the Hunho, the Tachung, the Hsiangshih, and the Yuh, or Grand Canal. The first four come from the uplands of western Chihli Province and Shansi Province. Thence they tear down the steep gradients, unrestrained by any plant growth bringing with them millions of tons of sand and soil annually. This they distribute with lavish prodigality over tens of thousands of square miles at different times. The heavier detritus, such as stones and gravel, is deposited over the erstwhile fertile regions at the base of the mountains, the sand is carried over longer distances, and the silt is transferred in suspension for thousands of miles to the sea, or where the waters become stilled by dykes or obstructions, it is deposited on the land. This year in the Hsiangtun district of Manchuria the Liao River floods deposited ten feet of sand over great areas, burying villages, and devastating whole stretches of fertile land.

The rivers concentrating on Tientsin have inundated over fifteen thousand square miles, wiping out villages by the thousand and homes by the million, destroying crops estimated at a low figure to the total value of from \$70,000,000 to \$100,000,000, and homes calculated at only \$3-silver each, to the value of \$30,000,000. This is an extremely conservative estimate, for it does not take into consideration personal effects or farm property or animals. These items, added to the loss of property and trade at Tientsin, must make the figures in the ultimate reckoning stupendous. Yet it is certain that the whole of the disaster could have been averted by intelligent processes, if applied in recent years only, for a sum totaling half of the damage caused to the Chinese farmers alone.

How the harnessing of the recalcitrant streams is now to be effected is being considered by the engineers concerned in the protection of Tientsin, but unhappily the task presented to those competent to deal with the matter door after the horse has taken to his heels. For some years now Mr. Vanderveen, Consulting Engineer to the Chinese National Conservancy Bureau, has been urging the Government to take in hand the problem of the Yangtze—(Ch'ang) being the Chinese for River) since that river's activities in flood-time materially affects the procedure of several others, the Hunho and the Haiho (on which Tientsin is built) in particular.

The Hunho has brought down silt and silt from the mountains west of Peking in such great quantities that it has raised its own bed in places some 20 feet above the surrounding country, and when breaks occur in the dyke it also raises the areas which it floods, the whole suggesting the seriousness of the breaking of the Yangtze. To overcome the chief difficulties and save the port of Tientsin from floods such as those now being experienced, Mr. Vanderveen recommended the Government to undertake work calculated to provide a permanent outlet for the Haiho, which is incapable of carrying all the flood waters of the rivers pouring into it, and which must necessarily silt up in course of time, despite the dredging work being carried on by the Haiho Conservancy Board, by the very fact that the crush of detritus in times of heavy rains is overpowering. The capacity of the Haiho is but one fifth of that of the Yangtze itself, so the advantage of a new opening are obvious.

In the first place, the Government in 1916, which supplements a previous report in 1915, "the Haiho will be freed from the enormous quantities of silt brought down at present, and the bar at the entrance at present such a severe hindrance to shipping, will, if it does not gradually disappear, become much smaller. In the second place the outlet can be made sufficiently large to cope with the volume of water brought down by the Yangtze during drenching rains, in addition the new course, leading as it would through the low country known as the French Marshes, or Taboulin, could be utilized by systematic dyking to raise all of the low-lying areas and so make it valuable agricultural land. If in the meantime attention is taken to the new river bed has been raised too much, have ceased to exist and the Yangtze will henceforth have no more vices than any other river."

Mr. Vanderveen expressed the opinion that only on the lines suggested could the trouble of the rivers be averted. "Other methods may give temporary relief," he pointed out, "but in the long run they will prove a failure and the same old problem will have been faced in vain. Moreover the evil might reach such proportions in the meantime that no remedy will exist. Then Tientsin is doomed and will cease to exist as a port."

While the Government might be differences of opinion among its members as to the steps to be proposed by Mr. Vanderveen, we briefly mention them solely to show that the Government has been consistently urged the Government to take some steps which a view to proportion to the extent of the disasters

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averting a disaster that it now has to confront.

Now that Tientsin has been menaced the engineers will continue to do their best to find a solution, and in course of time they will submit recommendations to the Government which will embody the results of their investigations and experience. In this way only can the rivers be dealt with, and we hope very soon to be able to publish the same of their recommendations, and also to report action on an adequate scale by the Central Government.

## KERNESKY'S MARRIAGE.

## A COMIC STORY.

Mr. A. M. Thompson, editor of the "Clarion," who has been acting as a special correspondent at Stockholm, says:

Kernesky will not have improved his standing in the love and favour of respectability by his sudden divorce from his wife and his hasty marriage with his wife's relative in the apartments in the Winter Palace. That kind of thing is regarded as romantic in the lives of Kings and Emperors, but it is not generally approved in persons not specially brought up to it. He does so many things which are not exactly nice. Even I, who have watched his feverish progress with fascinating awe, found my belief in the man staggered when I saw him attended at the Moscow Conference by a military and a naval attaché, who stood behind him and through the long hours of the Conference like the bodyguard of a monarch, and pompous potentate. On the other hand I am relieved as much as ever at his prompt temporary management of the clashing elements assembled there.



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 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46, 48, 50, 52, 54, 56, 58, 60, 62, 64, 66, 68, 70, 72, 74, 76, 78, 80, 82, 84, 86, 88, 90, 92, 94, 96, 98, 100, 102, 104, 106, 108, 110, 112, 114, 116, 118, 120, 122, 124, 126, 128, 130, 132, 134, 136, 138, 140, 142, 144, 146, 148, 150, 152, 154, 156, 158, 160, 162, 164, 166, 168, 170, 172, 174, 176, 178, 180, 182, 184, 186, 188, 190, 192, 194, 196, 198, 200, 202, 204, 206, 208, 210, 212, 214, 216, 218, 220, 222, 224, 226, 228, 230, 232, 234, 236, 238, 240, 242, 244, 246, 248, 250, 252, 254, 256, 258, 260, 262, 264, 266, 268, 270, 272, 274, 276, 278, 280, 282, 284, 286, 288, 290, 292, 294, 296, 298, 300, 302, 304, 306, 308, 310, 312, 314, 316, 318, 320, 322, 324, 326, 328, 330, 332, 334, 336, 338, 340, 342, 344, 346, 348, 350, 352, 354, 356, 358, 360, 362, 364, 366, 368, 370, 372, 374, 376, 378, 380, 382, 384, 386, 388, 390, 392, 394, 396, 398, 400, 402, 404, 406, 408, 410, 412, 414, 416, 418, 420, 422, 424, 426, 428, 430, 432, 434, 436, 438, 440, 442, 444, 446, 448, 450, 452, 454, 456, 458, 460, 462, 464, 466, 468, 470, 472, 474, 476, 478, 480, 482, 484, 486, 488, 490, 492, 494, 496, 498, 500, 502, 504, 506, 508, 510, 512, 514, 516, 518, 520, 522, 524, 526, 528, 530, 532, 534, 536, 538, 540, 542, 544, 546, 548, 550, 552, 554, 556, 558, 560, 562, 564, 566, 568, 570, 572, 574, 576, 578, 580, 582, 584, 586, 588, 590, 592, 594, 596, 598, 600, 602, 604, 606, 608, 610, 612, 614, 616, 618, 620, 622, 624, 626, 628, 630, 632, 634, 636, 638, 640, 642, 644, 646, 648, 650, 652, 654, 656, 658, 660, 662, 664, 666, 668, 670, 672, 674, 676, 678, 680, 682, 684, 686, 688, 690, 692, 694, 696, 698, 700, 702, 704, 706, 708, 710, 712, 714, 716, 718, 720, 722, 724, 726, 728, 730, 732, 734, 736, 738, 740, 742, 744, 746, 748, 750, 752, 754, 756, 758, 760, 762, 764, 766, 768, 770, 772, 774, 776, 778, 780, 782, 784, 786, 788, 790, 792, 794, 796, 798, 800, 802, 804, 806, 808, 810, 812, 814, 816, 818, 820, 822, 824, 826, 828, 830, 832, 834, 836, 838, 840, 842, 844, 846, 848, 850, 852, 854, 856, 858, 860, 862, 864, 866, 868, 870, 872, 874, 876, 878, 880, 882, 884, 886, 888, 890, 892, 894, 896, 898, 900, 902, 904, 906, 908, 910, 912, 914, 916, 918, 920, 922, 924, 926, 928, 930, 932, 934, 936, 938, 940, 942, 944, 946, 948, 950, 952, 954, 956, 958, 960, 962, 964, 966, 968, 970, 972, 974, 976, 978, 980, 982, 984, 986, 988, 990, 992, 994, 996, 998, 1000.

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 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46, 48, 50, 52, 54, 56, 58, 60, 62, 64, 66, 68, 70, 72, 74, 76, 78, 80, 82, 84, 86, 88, 90, 92, 94, 96, 98, 100, 102, 104, 106, 108, 110, 112, 114, 116, 118, 120, 122, 124, 126, 128, 130, 132, 134, 136, 138, 140, 142, 144, 146, 148, 150, 152, 154, 156, 158, 160, 162, 164, 166, 168, 170, 172, 174, 176, 178, 180, 182, 184, 186, 188, 190, 192, 194, 196, 198, 200, 202, 204, 206, 208, 210, 212, 214, 216, 218, 220, 222, 224, 226, 228, 230, 232, 234, 236, 238, 240, 242, 244, 246, 248, 250, 252, 254, 256, 258, 260, 262, 264, 266, 268, 270, 272, 274, 276, 278, 280, 282, 284, 286, 288, 290, 292, 294, 296, 298, 300, 302, 304, 306, 308, 310, 312, 314, 316, 318, 320, 322, 324, 326, 328, 330, 332, 334, 336, 338, 340, 342, 344, 346, 348, 350, 352, 354, 356, 358, 360, 362, 364, 366, 368, 370, 372, 374, 376, 378, 380, 382, 384, 386, 388, 390, 392, 394, 396, 398, 400, 402, 404, 406, 408, 410, 412, 414, 416, 418, 42







## HONGKONG DEFENCE CORPS.

Administrative Orders by Major H. A. Morgan, Administrative Commandant.

## STATIONERY.

Gunner T. M. Leitch was enrolled on 7.12.17 and posted to Artillery. Sgt. A. Whitlaw, Engineer Company, is permitted to resign, on leaving the Colony, dated 12th December, 1917. Pte. E. F. Clarys, "B" Coy., is permitted to resign, on recommendation of a Medical Board, dated 8th December, 1917. Pte. E. M. Hazland, "D" Coy., is permitted to resign, on recommendation of a Medical Board, dated 11th December, 1917.

## TRANSFER.

Pte. W. J. Titcher, "B" Coy., is transferred to "D" Company, dated 9th December, 1917.

## LEAVE.

Pte. P. D. Sutherland, "B" Coy., is granted extension of leave from 7.12.17 to 24.12.17. Pte. S. H. Dodwell, "B" Coy., is granted 1 month's leave, from 12.12.17 to 12.1.18.

## CAMP.

Reference Infantry Battalion orders dated 12.11.17, the special train will leave Kowloon on Friday, 14th December, 1917, at 6.15 p.m. instead of at 6.25 p.m. A special Star Ferry will leave Hongkong for Kowloon at 6.20 p.m.

A copy of the Company roll, showing actions to which N.C.O.s and men are posted, has been issued to each N.C.O. and man in the Company. Anyone who has not received a copy should apply for one at the orderly room.

Orders for Artillery Company by Capt. J. H. W. Armstrong, V.D., at Belcher's Battery.

## PARADES.

MONDAY, 17th instant: 7.30 a.m. Right Half Company D.R.F. Class only. 8.15 a.m. Left Half Company D.R.F. Class only.

TUESDAY, 18th instant: 7.30 a.m. Right Half Company. Full parade. 8.15 p.m. Left Half Company. Full parade.

THURSDAY, 21st instant: 7.30 a.m. Right Half Company (Gun members other than specialists). 8.15 p.m. Left Half Company (Gun members other than specialists).

FRIDAY, 22nd instant: 7.30 a.m. Right Half Company Layers and Setters class only. 8.15 p.m. Left Half Company Layers and Setters class only.

Orders for Engineer Company by Captain W. Russell.

14th to 21st instant: B. L. Manning, Nightly at Belcher's and Lyceum. Parade as per Rosters at Headquarters. Evening drivers 5.15 p.m. 8.15 p.m. to 9.30 p.m.

OFFICIALS NEXT FOR DUTY: Belcher's, Captain W. Russell. Lyceum, Captain James. Stonecutters, Lieut. Stevenson.

PARADES FOR INSTRUCTION: Classes for higher ratings at Belcher's at 6 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday, under Staff Sergeants. Overdone and Parsons, R.E. Corporal Day and 2nd Corporal Norton at Lyceum from 12th to 21st December, 1917 is posted at Headquarters.

Orders for Infantry Battalion by Major H. A. Morgan.

PARADES: For members of the Corps not in Camp on the dates mentioned: MONDAY, 17th instant: 6.10 p.m. Machine Gun Company. Nos. 1 and 2 Detachments, at Kowloon Rocks. M.G. drill, Dress, Clean Fatigue.

TUESDAY, 18th instant: 4.30 p.m. Mounted Section, Annual Musketry Course, Part 2, Practices 5, 6, 7 and 12, at King's Park Range. Dress Drill order with pouches.

WEDNESDAY, 19th instant: 4.30 p.m. Mounted Section, Annual Musketry Course, Part 2, Practices 8 and 9, at King's Park Range. Dress Drill order with pouches.

THURSDAY, 20th instant: 4.30 p.m. Recruits (joined since 1.10.17) at Kennedy Range. Musketry instruction. Grouping with miniature ammunition. Dress Drill order without rifle. Lance Sergeants Edmonds and Meade will attend.

FRIDAY, 21st instant: 4.15 p.m. No. 4 Section, Headquarters, under C. S. M. Cooke and Lance Sergeant Edmonds. Musketry instruction. Dress Drill order with pouches.

Orders for Cadet Company by 2nd Lieut. Brand, J.E.W.

PARADES: MONDAY, 17th instant: 4.15 p.m. Nos. 1 and 2 Sections, at Headquarters. 6.15 p.m. Buglers, at Headquarters.

WEDNESDAY, 19th instant: 4.15 p.m. Nos. 3 and 4 Sections, at Yamnui Football Ground. 5.30 p.m. Buglers at Yamnui Football Ground.

THURSDAY, 20th instant: 4.20 p.m. Gymnasium, at St. Andrew's Church Hall.

NOTES: The quarterly meeting of the members of the Hongkong Rifle Association will be held in the 2nd room at 8.45 p.m. on Wednesday, 27th January, 1918. Every member is heartily requested to attend.

Before deciding up on your next motorcycle see the three new 1918 model

**Indian Motorcycles.**

2 1/2 h.p. Featherweight.  
3 h.p. Little Twin.  
5 h.p. Big Twin.

Fresh shipment due in Hongkong this month.

**ALEX. ROSS & CO.,**  
TEL. 27. 4, Des Vaux Road.

## To-day's Advertisements

## PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction (FOR ACCOUNT OF THE CONCERNED), on

**MONDAY,** the 17th December, 1917, commencing at 5 p.m., at their Sales Rooms, No. 5, Des Vaux Road, Corner of Ice House Street,

A FINE COLLECTION OF BRITISH COLONIAL STAMPS, comprising:—

Great Britain, Natal, South Australia, Tasmania, Transvaal, Rhodesia, Victoria, Western Australia, Zanzibar, Zululand, New South Wales, Canada,

(including 20 rare 3 cornered Cape of Good Hope).  
Every stamp guaranteed perfectly genuine.

(Full Particulars from Catalogue).  
Terms—Cash.  
On view 27th inst. from 2 p.m. and day of sale.

**HUGHES & HUGHES,**  
Auctioneers.  
Hongkong, Dec. 13, 1917. 2384

**TOYO KISEN KAISHA.**  
FROM SAN FRANCISCO VIA HONOLULU, JAPAN PORTS AND MANILA.

THE Steamship "KOREA MARU," The above steamer having arrived, Consignees of cargo are hereby notified to send in their Bills of Lading for counter signatures, and to take immediate delivery of cargo from alongside.

Cargo remaining undelivered on SATURDAY, 15th December, at 5 p.m. will be landed at Consignee's risk and expense, and delivery must then be taken from the Company's Godown.

Storage charges will be assessed on all cargo remaining undelivered on MONDAY, 17th December, at 5 p.m.

No Fire Insurance whatever will be effected.

No claims will be recognised after the Goods have left the Steamer or Godown. All claims and damaged cargo will be landed into the Company's Godown, where they will be examined on 30th December at 10 a.m.

No claims will be recognised if filed after the 27th December, 1917.

**T. DAIGO,**  
Agent.  
Hongkong, Dec. 13, 1917. 2385

**PATELL & CO.**  
ORIENTAL PRODUCE EXPORTERS,  
SILK MERCHANTS,  
COMMISSION AGENTS.

Agencies in  
**NEW YORK,**  
**SAN FRANCISCO, U.S.A.**

Branches:—  
**CANTON, SHANGHAI, YOKOHAMA, BOMBAY.**

HEAD OFFICE: King's Buildings, HONGKONG.

**LESSONS IN CHINESE.**

MR. H. H. FAN, a Chinese graduate versed in English, has been a teacher to Europeans and Americans in this Colony for ten years. He has a good knowledge of the Chinese language and is a native speaker of English. Those who intend learning the Chinese language are requested to write to "The China Mail" Office of direct to No. 112, Wellington Street, Hong Kong.

**HONGKONG REGISTER.**

Barometer ... 29.87 29.85 29.36  
Temperature ... 68 68 68  
Humidity ... 68 68 68  
Direction of Wind ... S S E  
Force ... 4 3 2  
Weather ... 0 0 0  
Rain ... 0.00 0.00 0.16

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Rain ... 0.00 0.00 0.16

## HONGKONG MARKET PRICES.

## Butcher Meat.

Beef Sirloin—Mei Lung Pa ... lb. 21  
Prime Cut ... 21  
Corned—Ham Ngau Yuk ... 20  
Roast—Shiu ... 20  
Brast—Ngau Nam ... 18  
Soup—Tong Yuk ... 15  
Steak—Ngau Yuk Pa ... 20  
Steak Sirloin—Ngau Lan ... 20  
Sausages—Ngau Cheung ... 20

Bullock's Brains—Ngau No per set ... 9  
Tongue, fresh—Ngau Li each 45  
Tongue, corned—Ham Ngau Li each 60 cents.

Head—Ngau Tau ... each 80  
Heart—Ngau Sam ... lb. 13  
Hump—Salt—Ngau Kin ... 18  
Jerk—Ngau Keuk ... each 10  
Kidneys—Ngau Yin ... 9  
Tail—Ngau Mei ... lb. 12  
Liver—Ngau Kon ... lb. 12  
Tripe (undressed)—Ngau To ... 15

Calves' Head and Feet—Ngau-tai-tau-ku ... each \$1.00  
Mutton Chop—Yeung Fat Kwai ... lb. 20  
Leg—Yeung Pei ... 20  
Shoulder—Yeung Shau ... 24  
Saddle—Yeung On Yuk ... 16  
Pig's Chittings—Chu Chong ... 4  
Brains—Chu No per set ... 2  
Feet—Chu Kwai ... lb. 14  
Fry—Chu Chap ... 20  
Head—Chu Tau ... 18  
Heart—Chu Sam ... each 10  
Kidneys—Chu Yin ... each 10  
Liver—Chu Kon ... lb. 30  
Pork Chop—Chu Pui Kwai ... 24  
Leg—Chu Pei ... 23  
Loins—Chu Hau Tau ... 28  
Fat or Lard—Chu Yan ... 21

Sheep's Head and Feet—Yeung ... set 80  
Tau ... set 80  
Heart—Yeung Sam ... each 8  
Kidneys—Yeung Yin ... each 12  
Liver—Yeung Kon ... lb. 26  
Smoking Pig, to order—Chu Tai ... 20  
Suet, Beef—Shang Ngau-Yau ... 20  
Mutton—Shang Yeung-Yau ... 26  
Vial—Ngau Tai Yuk ... 20  
Sausages—Ngau Tai Cheung ... 20  
Lard—Chu Yau ... lb. 20

**Fish.**  
Barbel—Ka Yu ... lb. 28  
Bream—Pia Yu ... 18  
Canton Fresh Water Fish ... 18  
Carp—Li Yu ... 22  
Catfish—Chik Yu ... 14  
Codfish—Mon Yu ... 16  
Crabs—Hoi ... 16  
Cuttle Fish—Muk Yu ... 16  
Dace—Wong Mai Lap ... 10  
Dog Fish—Tui To Sha ... 10  
Eels, Ganges—Hoi Ma ... 14  
Fresh water—Tam Shui Yu ... 18  
Yellow—Wong Sin ... 34  
Frog—Tin Kai ... 36  
Garoupa—Shak Pan ... 44  
Gudgeon—Pak Kap Yu ... 17  
Herring—Tao Pak ... 22  
Herring—Cheung Kwai Kap ... 22  
Lahma—Wong Yu Yu ... 20  
Loach—Wu Yu ... 26  
Lobsters—Lung Ha ... 28  
Mackerel—Chi Yu ... 22  
Monk Fish—Mong Yu ... 34  
Mullet—Tui Yu ... 16  
Oysters—Shang Ho ... 18  
Parrot Fish—Kai Kang Yu ... 18  
Pouch—Tao Lo ... 18  
Pike—Pa Fan Fong ... 18  
Plaice—Pan Yu ... 16  
Pomfret, Black—Hak Cheung ... 28  
Pomfret, White—Pak Cheung ... 28  
Prawns—Ming Ha ... 34  
Bay—Pai Pa Sha ... 10  
Rock Fish—Shak Kau Kwai ... 15  
Roach—Shan Yu ... 14  
Salmon—Ma Yu ... 32  
Shark—Sha Yu ... 8  
Shark—Po Yu ... 8  
Shrimps—Lap ... 28  
Snapper—Lap Yu ... 28  
Sole—Tat She Yu ... 28  
Tench—Wan Yu ... 18  
Turbot—Tao Han Yu ... 18  
Turtles, small, fresh water—Keuk Yu ... 80

**FRUITS.**  
Almonds—Hang Yan ... lb. 30  
Apples, (California)—Kam Shan Ping Ko ... 18  
Bananas, (bride's), Macao—San Heung Chiu ... 8  
Carambola—Yeung To ... 11  
Cocoanuts—Ye Teo ... each 10  
Lemons, China—Ling Mung ... lb. 8  
Lemons, America—Kam Shan ... 8  
Ling Mung ... 7 each  
Lichees, Dried, (small stone)—Lai Chi Kon ... lb. 28  
Oranges, (Canton), (Sweet)—Shan-sheng Tim Chang ... 10  
Oranges, (Canton), (Sour)—Shan-sheng Tim Chang ... 10  
Pears, (Canton), (Sour)—Shan-sheng Tim Chang ... 10  
Peanuts—Ye Teo ... 10  
Persimmons, Large—Hung Tai ... 12  
Plantain—Tat Chiu ... 08  
Pineapple, Siam—Ting Lo Kai ... each 11  
Walnuts—Hep To ... lb. 44  
Grapes—Po Tai Tai ... 28

**Vegetables, &c.**  
Artichokes—Ah Chi Cheuk ... each 4  
Beans, Sprout—Ngau Tsoi ... lb. 4  
Long—Tao Kok ... 9  
Beet Root—Hung Tsoi Tau ... 8  
Bitter Squash—Fu Kwa ... 7  
Brinjola, Green—Ching Yau Kwa ... 6  
Red—Hong Ke ... 5  
Cabbage, Chinese, (common)—Kai Tsoi ... 8  
Shanghai—Ye Tsoi ... 16  
Cane Shoots, bunch—Kau Shun ... 1  
Cauliflower (Large)—Ye Tsoi Pa ... each 1  
(Medium)—Ye Tsoi Pa ... 1  
(Small)—Ye Tsoi Pa ... 1  
Carrots—Kam Shun ... lb. 8  
Celery, Chinese—Tong Kan Tsoi ... 9  
Chillies, Dried—Kon Lat Chiu ... 25  
Red—Hung Pa Chiu ... 12  
Green—Ching Lat Chiu ... 6  
Curry Stuff, English—Ka Li Chu Lin ... lb. 10  
Cucumbers—Ching Kwa ... each 2  
Garlic—Sun Tau ... lb. 8  
Ginger, young—Sun Tau ... 8  
Ginger, old—Lo Keung ... 10  
Horse-radish, Shanghai—Lik Kan ... 45  
Indian Corn—Shuk Mai ... each 06  
Lettuce—Yeung Shang Tsoi ... each 1  
Water Chestnuts—Ma Tai ... lb. 5  
Mandarin—Kwai ... 8  
Lam Ma Tai ... 8  
Mushrooms, Fresh—Shang Tau Kan ... lb. 10  
Okros ... lb. 10  
Onions, Bombay—Yeung Chung Tin ... lb. 8  
Onions, Green—Shang Chung Tin ... lb. 5  
Onions, Shanghai—Shang-hoi ... 6  
Parsley—Kun Tsoi ... \$1.20  
Potato, Sweet—Fan Shu ... 3  
Mutton—Shang Yeung-Yau ... 26  
Japanese—Yat Fan Shu Tai ... lb. 3  
American—Fa Kai Shu Tai ... lb. 3  
Pumpkin—Tung Kwa ... lb. 3  
Radish—Hung Lo Pak Tai ... 6  
Rhubarb (Fresh)—Tai Wong ... 7  
Shallots—Kong Chong Tai ... 4  
Spinach—Yin Tsoi ... 4  
Tomatoes—Fan Ka ... 8  
Taro—Wu Tau ... 4  
Turnips, Pencil, (Long)—Lo Pak ... 4  
Vegetable Marrow—Tait Kwa ... 4  
Water Cress—Sai Yeung Tsoi ... 15  
Lily root—Lin Ngau ... 5  
Yams—Tai Shu ... 9

**EXCHANGE.**  
Hongkong, December 13, 1917.

On London ... 2/11 1/2  
Bank Wire ... 2/11 1/2  
On demand ... 2/11 1/2  
30 days sight ... 2/11 1/2  
4 months sight ... 2/11 1/2  
Credit, 4 months sight ... 2/11 1/2  
Documentary, 4 months sight ... 2/11 1/2

On Paris ... 411 1/2  
On demand ... 411 1/2  
Credit, 4 months sight ... 411 1/2  
On New York ... 71 1/2  
On demand ... 71 1/2  
Credit, 4 months sight ... 71 1/2  
On Bombay ... 129 1/2  
On demand ... 129 1/2  
Credit, 4 months sight ... 129 1/2  
On Shanghai ... 142 1/2  
On demand ... 142 1/2  
Credit, 4 months sight ... 142 1/2  
On Hongkong ... 137 1/2  
On demand ... 137 1/2  
Credit, 4 months sight ... 137 1/2  
Gold, 100 fine (per ton) ... 44.20  
Silver (per oz.) ... 42 1/2  
Bar Silver in Hongkong ... 24 1/2 p.m.  
Chinese Copper Cash ... 2 1/2 p.m.  
Chinese Copper Cent ... 2 1/2 p.m.  
Chinese Silver ... 7 1/2 p.m.  
Hongkong Sub. Coin ... par.

**TEMPERATURE.**  
Hongkong, December 13, 1917.

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Weather ... 0 0 0  
Rain ... 0.00 0.00 0.16

Barometer ... 29.87 29.85 29.36  
Temperature ... 68 68 68  
Humidity ... 68 68 68  
Direction of Wind ... S S E  
Force ... 4 3 2  
Weather ... 0 0 0  
Rain ... 0.00 0.00 0.16

## WEEPING ECZEMA ALL OVER HEAD

Appeared as Itchy Spot. Had a Watery Appearance. Became Eruptions. Healed by Cuticura.

"I had weeping eczema, the first signs of which was the appearance of an itchy spot on my head. At times it had a watery appearance and quickly spread all over my head which became a mass of eruptions. I had very little sleep and I had to cut my hair off."

"I was advised by one healed with Cuticura to try them. After using a box of Cuticura Ointment and a tablet of Soap I was healed." (Signed) Harry Thompson, 4, New Lane Place, Leeds, Eng., June 10, 1915.

Why not make these fragrant emollients your every-day toilet preparations? Samples Free by Post. (Address to: Cuticura, Ointment to be used.) Soap to be used. 2 Newbury, 6 Soho, 27, Chancery Lane, London. Sold everywhere.

**WEATHER REPORT.**  
December 13th, 12th, 10th.—No returns from Japan and Indo-China. Pressure has decreased slightly around the Formosa Channel, and increased slightly to moderately elsewhere; it apparently remains highest over Korea.

Hongkong Rainfall for the 24 hours ending at 10 a.m. to-day, 0.00 inch. Total since January 1st, 80.37 inches, against an average of 82.43 inches.

Forecast for the 24 hours ending at noon on the 14th December:—  
1.—Hongkong to Gap Rock: E. winds, moderate; cloudy, rain.  
2.—Formosa: Channel: N. winds, moderate.

3.—South coast of China between Hongkong and Lamook: The same as No. 1.

4.—South coast of China between Hongkong and Hainan: The same as No. 1.

**OFFICIAL NIGHTS IN HONGKONG.**  
The following table shows the Standard Time at which Official Night ends and begins during the month of Dec. 1917:

Date. Ends. Begins.  
Dec. 13th, 6.42 a.m. 5.52 p.m.  
14th, 6.42 " 5.52 "  
15th, 6.43 " 5.53 "  
16th, 6.43 " 5.53 "  
17th, 6.43 " 5.53 "  
18th, 6.44 " 5.54 "  
19th, 6.44 " 5.54 "  
20th, 6.44 " 5.55 "  
21st, 6.44 " 5.55 "  
22nd, 6.45 " 5.56 "  
23rd, 6.45 " 5.56 "  
24th, 6.46 " 5.57 "  
25th, 6.46 " 5.57 "  
26th, 6.46 " 5.58 "  
27th, 6.46 " 5.58 "  
28th, 6.49 " 5.59 "  
29th, 6.49 " 5.59 "  
30th, 6.50 " 6.00 "  
31st, 6.50 " 6.00 "

**POST OFFICE NOTICES.**  
The Parcel Post Services to British East Africa and Egypt (except for members of the Expeditionary Forces) and to Abyssinia, Bagdad, Eritrea, French Somal Coast, Italian Somaliland, Portuguese East Africa, Zanzibar and Russia have been suspended.